

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims where indicated below:

1.(currently amended) A utility basket, comprising:

a bottom floor including a storage cavity formed therein adapted for accepting and storing a retractable front door;

a left wall and a right wall located above and integrally connected to said bottom floor;

a back wall located between said left wall and said right wall and above said bottom floor, wherein said back wall is integrally connected to said left wall, said right wall and said bottom floor;

a front wall having a gap formed thereof through which items enter and exit said utility basket, wherein said back wall is integrally connected to said left wall, said right wall and said bottom floor;

tracks having holes formed therein and formed vertically along the gap formed in the front wall; and

a front door coupled with said front wall, wherein said front door opens and closes to permit items to enter and exit said utility basket through said gap when said front door is in an open position, while maintaining said items within said utility basket when said front door is in a closed position including a locking mechanism and spring loaded pins mounted thereon, wherein said front door is adapted to slide along the tracks formed vertically along the gap and wherein said locking mechanism and spring loaded pins are adapted to lock the front door at more than one opened position along the track wherein said pins can be manipulated using the locking mechanism to cause the pins to become placed within the holes formed along the track.

2.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 1 wherein said front door opens and closes vertically, wherein said front door is opened as it is pushed downward into a storage position located near the bottom floor of the utility basket and the front door is closed when as it is pulled upward from its storage position into a closed

position, wherein the closed position comprises filling in of the gap formed in the front wall.

6.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 1 further comprising at least one retractable handle.

8.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of wheels connected to said bottom floor of said utility basket and at least one handle.

9.(original) The utility basket of claim 1 further comprising at least one wheel connected to said bottom floor of said utility basket.

10.(original) The utility basket of claim 1 wherein said front door comprises a flexible sheet.

11.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 1 wherein said front door comprises a door handle.

12.(original) The utility basket of claim 1 wherein said front door comprises a locking mechanism.

13.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 1 wherein said left wall, said right wall, said back wall, said bottom floor, said front wall and said front door are integrally formed from a plastic material.

14.(original) The utility basket of claim 1 further comprising a cavity formed from at least one wall of said utility basket, such that said front door slides into said cavity in when said front door is moving toward an open position and out of said cavity when said front door is moving toward a closed position.

15.(currently amended) A utility basket, comprising:

a front panel, a back panel, a right panel, a left panel and a floor;  
a gap formed thereof in at least one of said front panel, said back panel , said right panel or said left panel; and  
a door coupled with said at least one of said front panel, said back panel, said right panel or said left panel at said gap, wherein said door can open and close to permit items to enter and exit said utility basket through said gap when said front door is in an open, downward position, while maintaining said items within said utility basket when said front door is in a partially closed and closed, upward position.

31 17.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 15 wherein said front door opens and closes vertically within said gap, wherein said front door is opened as it is pushed downward into a storage position located near the bottom floor of the utility basket and the front door is closed when as it is pulled upward from its storage position into a closed position, wherein the closed position comprises filling in of the gap formed in the front wall.

18.(currently amended) The utility basket of claim 15 wherein said utility basket further comprises at least one wheel and at least one handle.

21.(new) A utility basket, comprising:

a bottom floor;  
a left wall and a right wall located above and connected to said bottom floor;  
a back wall located between said left wall and said right wall and above said bottom floor, wherein said back wall is connected to said left wall, said right wall and said bottom floor;  
a front wall having a gap formed thereof through which items enter and exit said utility basket; and  
a retractable front door assembled within the gap in said front wall, wherein said retractable front door opens and closes vertically within a cavity formed in said front wall to thereby permit items to enter and exit said utility basket through said gap when said front door is in an opened position, while maintaining said items

within said utility basket when said front door is in a partially closed or closed position.

wherein said retractable front door is fully opened as it is pushed downward within the cavity into a storage position located at the bottom floor of the utility basket and the front door can be adjusted to different positions up to full closure when it is pulled upward from the storage position towards a closed position.

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22.(new) The utility basket of claim 1 further comprising at least one retractable handle located near the back wall opposite the bottom floor and at least one wheel mounted on the external surface of the bottom floor, wherein said retractable handle and at least one wheel enable the utility basket to be maneuvered along the ground.